

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2924  
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2003  
INTRODUCTION OF NEW AIR SERVICE  
MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has identified the cities including Surat where civil air service is required;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the names of the cities where airports would be constructed to introduce new flights; and
- (e) by when air services are likely to operate?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION ( SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY )

(a) to (e) :- Airports Authority of India (AAI) has plans to develop existing airport at Surat for operations of 50-seater type of aircraft. However, due to non-availability of suitable aircraft, Indian Airlines has no plans to airlink Surat at present. Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by the Government. Airports Authority of India has no plans to construct any new AAI airport. However, the following new airports have been approved 'in principle' by the Government:

- (i) Mopa near Goa
- (ii) Devanahalli near Bangalore.
- (iii) Shamshabad near Hyderabad
- (iv) Taj International Airport and Aviation Hub in Bulandshahr, UP
- (v) Peking near Gangtok.